

## By G. FERRERO---

(Famous Italian Historian)

**Germany On Verge of Bankruptcy and Civil War, Declares Noted Writer.**  
**Misery of Masses Increases As Huge Wealth of Fortunate Few Piles Up Daily—Country Grows Poorer the More Its People Work.**

ROME, Aug. 26. GERMANY is on the verge of bankruptcy and of civil war. The mark precipitates daily toward zero; the state budget consists of a huge, hopeless deficit; the misery of the masses increases, together with the huge wealth acquired during the catastrophe by a few fortunate individuals.

Republicans and Monarchists, Socialists and Bourgeois are tempering their weapons for internecine strife; the government, impotent internally, enchaind by the Peace treaties, incessantly harassed by the victors, does not know where to turn for relief.

True, industry is active, but the country, taken as a whole, grows poorer the more it works. The fall in value of the currency impoverishes it to the profit of the richer countries. London, Paris, Rome, begins to grasp the fact that the center of Europe threatens collapse.

Until yesterday no one believed this. Since the armistice all Europe lived in the firm persuasion that after the war Germany would be, as before, an example of discipline, activity and order, for all the nations.

"The people are so hard-working. The nation is so powerful," they all said. Now that this hope begins to pale, all blame the peace treaties, accusing them of being the cause of this ruin. Palliations, expedients, moratoriums, are proposed.

But there is yet another delusion. The Peace Treaty is draconian, and executed to the letter would reduce to poverty a people even more hardworking and strong than Germany. It has, however, been applied in the matter of indemnities and reparations only on a very small scale and much watered down.

### GERMANY HARD HIT.

Nevertheless, Germany is in extremis. Why? Because the reason of Germany's ruin is not only the peace, with its treaties, but also the war itself. Germany has been ruined by the war, by the gigantic, monstrous, insane, unimaginable efforts she put forth to bury herself under the ruins of Europe. When Germany signed the armistice she was already half a corpse.

Germany furnishes continual surprises, not only for America but for Europe, because no one grasps this simple but wonderful truth. The peoples of the Entente imagine the situation of Germany

analogous to their own; the French, indeed, consider it better than their own, because Germany has not been invaded. No one takes into account that the Allies had the advantage over Germany, and to which they owe their victory, that they warred in large part with the moneys of all the world.

All covered their own expenses in part with loans from England and America; loans of which the major part, at least up to today, are to be looked on as gifts, because no one has paid interest for them to their creditors.

But whence did England and America obtain funds to make these large loans, up to date gratuitous, and also meet their own heavy expenses, without ruining themselves? From the enormous profits both made during the war, selling their services and their goods to the whole world at a price far higher than in peace time; maritime transports, coal, grain, petroleum, and so forth.

The war expenses of the entente have been in part paid by the neutrals of the whole globe. Enclosed in an iron ring, isolated from the rest of the world, Germany had instead not only to meet the enormous expenses of the war, but to help her allies from out of her own resources, diminished by the almost total paralysis of her world commerce.

She had no outside assistance except a few loans accorded by her neutral neighbors and the spoliation of the invaded territories, Belgium, Poland, Serbia, Rumania, Friuli. These spoiliations procured for her vast riches, but what were these riches in comparison to the enormous devastations caused by the war? IN DEBT TO EYES.

Germany has not only been constrained, like all the other belligerent states, to become indebted up to the eyes, but has been forced in greatly superior proportion than the Entente, to pledge and consume all her reserves, from gold and foreign credits up to copper utensils, flax and cotton. She found herself, at the close of the war, burdened with debts, famished, half naked. She had no longer foreign credits, reserves of food, clothes, shoes, underwear, copper vessels, and for two years she has lived on potatoes and could not warm herself in winter. All her machines were deteriorated or damaged; the bodies of her men

relied upon the present financial plight of the republic. The lower the exchange value of the mark the better the monarchists and the militarists liked it.

The Kaiser reasons that although it is true that under the present republican regime the workingmen are prosperous—more prosperous than they ever were—the workingmen would be against the re-establishment of the monarchy anyway.

So that, at any rate, he does not expect any sympathy from that element.

The big element in the re-establishment of the monarchy are the middle and professional classes, whose incomes, according to the pre-war value of the mark, are now so small that they are actually starving. Therefore the Kaiser puts his faith in the discontent of these classes.

The Kaiser is absolutely assured that the press of Germany is on his side. Since the armistice Herr Stinnes has loomed up great as an industrial magnate, and through his multifarious control of various branches of industry throughout Germany and Austria he has become the owner of several hundred newspapers.

Herr Stinnes, although not a Kaiser partisan, is a strong Monarchist.

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and women weakened by privations.

The armistice and the peace constrained her to refund a part of the booty taken from the invaded lands. They deprived her of her mercantile navy, a portion of her railroad stock, some of her richest territories. They forced her to pay milliards, not many as compared to what the treaties had demanded she should pay, but enough to enable a land to be killed that was already a corpse.

Finally, her defeat and the revolution annulled the internal credit of her government, as the war had already liquidated her foreign credits. While the Imperial Government, so long as there remained a hope of victory, could contract in Germany all the loans they required, the republic had no other resource but the printing press. It has been forced to abuse in the issue of paper money, that is to say of the most insidious and dangerous debt.

And after all this the world wonders that the center of Europe threatens to collapse, and deludes itself with the belief that a moratorium of some years' duration and a loan will effect salvation!

OUT FOR GENERATIONS.

But Germany has been ruined by the war for several generations, and hence will be harassed for many years to come with agitations of every species.

What will happen it is difficult to foresee, but all is possible and everything can be feared—attempts to restore the monarchy, Communist revolts, civil war. Many believe that nothing is to be feared from Germany because her people are energetic and industrious. An error. Germany is today a peril just because her people are energetic and industrious and strong. Hence she will not resign herself to her misfortunes as easily as Austria has done.

Nor can either Europe or America do aught to change her destiny. A moratorium will be only temporary relief. Only time, that great healer of nations, can succeed in remaking what a few years of madness has destroyed.

Europe has not yet understood what she did in engaging in a war that destroyed ten millions of men, three empires, all conceptions of right and wrong, the humanitarian traditions of two centuries, the wealth laboriously accumulated since three generations.

## VON WIEGAND FINDS BERLIN "CITY OF CAFES"

By KARL H. VON WIEGAND.  
 BERLIN, Aug. 26.

BERLIN has all but replaced Vienna and Paris as the "city of cafes." The Berlin cafe has not been fairly treated by the writer of romance in the past. He has seldom deemed it a suitable place in which to allow his hero and heroine to lean breathlessly across the table, drinking deep of each other's eyes and thrilling to the wild strains of the orchestra.

It is invariably in "mad" Paris or in "gay" Vienna that such moving scenes are staged, the two cities whose world-wide reputation for cafe life in its fullest flower entitles them, we suppose, to this distinction.

But, Berlin has an unending assortment of cafes, quite as suitable in which to set the most frivolous flirtation or the most serious love affair.

There are, for instance, innumerable cafes lining the Kurfuerstendamm, where any vendor of best sellers could safely trust his rich American heiress, with her fond, adoring parents, or his wealthy Japanese financier, or any of his characters whose purses are plentifully filled with the gold of the valuta-rich countries.

The prices of the moka and cakes are exorbitant from the German point of view, but are in no danger of taxing the foreigner.

The waiters, for the most part, speak a charming broken English and are, as a rule, attentively, with an ever-hopeful eye on the foreigner's pocketbook. These cafes frequently have orchestras which play with considerable charm and spirit.

More bourgeois cafes are numerous, where the eminently respectable middle class drinks its coffee. Here the plump, brightly-clad German "Hausfrau" meets with her friends for a bit of gossip and a cup of coffee, where the young students gather to read the daily local and foreign newspapers and magazines, which are quite beyond the reach of their pocketbooks, and do their telephoning and letter writing between gulps of coffee.

The coffee and cakes are usually of a grade inferior to the Kurfuerstendamm palaces, but there is a certain warmth and friendliness that is lacking in the latter. Marble-topped tables are used here instead of the dainty wooden ones of the cafes of the rich, and the waiters are content with the regular 10 per cent which is always added to the bill. Over one cup of coffee one may tarry hours

with no fear of becoming "de trop."

Berlin at one time was rich in artist cafes of a sincerely bohemian character, but most of these seem to have disappeared during the past ten or fifteen years. There are still a few left, where one sees the threadbare artist, the emaciated poet and all of the usual "freaks" that hover around such places. They sit there for hours discussing the latest form of verse, the growth of the radical school in painting, and kindred subjects. The Romanische Cafe is, perhaps, the most popular of these "Kunstler" cafes.

There are also the film cafes frequented chiefly by moving picture folk, where they meet and talk over the newest picture, the favorite film star's new contract and the latest gossip of the film world. They are a fairly prosperous lot; in fact, this industry has absorbed many of the penniless bohemians of earlier Berlin days and converted them into successful movie writers or publicity agents. The women are unusually gaily clad and full of bubbling life, carrying on animated flirtations with their male co-workers as they sip their cordials and coffee.

One encounters cafes, too, where much business is transacted—trading in jewelry, cigarettes, grains, etc.—virtually a small stock exchange. Here one notes a constant movement of its patrons from table to table. There is little time for a leisurely cup of coffee or a quiet chat here.

All through the residence sections of Berlin, from the more prosperous part of the west end to the poorer quarters in the north and east, one finds small cafes, sometimes having only two or three tables and seating accommodations for not more than six or eight persons. These are sometimes in ground floor apartments and sometimes in small stores, and serve rather as small community centers where neighbors meet and over their coffee cups talk over their common interests.

The Russians in Berlin have their own cafes, charming, colorful places with wild gypsy orchestras to delight one. The Japanese, the Hungarians, the Turks, the Spaniards and innumerable other nationalities each has its own distinctive cafe where their respective citizens gather to talk their mother tongue, and foreigners float in to get a peep at life as it is lived in other lands.

## By CANON BARNES---

(Who Has Won Wide Reputation As An Independent and Brilliant Preacher)

**Why World's Morality Has Fallen—People Have Become Mentally Fatigued and Spiritually Disquieted—Belief in Spiritual World Is Reviving—Materialism Is Dying, Says Westminster Canon.**

DEAN INGE, the famous English divine, recently stated that England is threatened with a great outbreak of licentiousness. Authority in morals seems to have lost its force; men and women do what is right in their own eyes. There is a widespread want of faith in the Christian revelation, combined with an outbreak of puerile superstition.

PROBABLY the advance of Natural Science did more than anything else to disintegrate Christianity. It needed little education to see that the biological doctrine of evolution was incompatible with the Genesis account of Creation; and a foolish belief grew up that the whole Christian scheme had collapsed.

Man had not sufficient imagination to realize that a far greater change in human thought took place when Copernican astronomy showed that the earth was not the Centre of the Universe. They forgot that the Christian religion is not tied to particular scientific theories.

But the whole movement from faith to scepticism and from morality to hedonism is due to more deep-seated causes. The human race is, at the moment, weary. The game has been too strenuous. The intellectual triumphs of the last half-century have been too numerous and too varied.

In the end they have simply bewildered the average man, who cannot fit them into his scheme of thought. So he dislikes "high-brows," and tries to think through his emotions. When this happens racial superstitions, buried though not dead, shoot up again. We get barbarised thought and barbarised religion.

Further, modern facilities for transit and communication—steamships, aeroplanes, telephones and wireless—have, as it were, brought the whole world on top of us. Finance, industry, and commerce are international. Our social conditions are not of our own making. Humanity at large, and not the Houses of Parliament, fixes the standard of living of our workers.

The workers denounce Christian ethics as a sham because statesmen and religious leaders do not at present see how to apply those ethics to a little corner of a largely non-Christian world. Change has been too rapid for constructive thought.

So there is disillusion and tiredness. We are mentally fatigued and spiritually disquieted. Thought has yielded to emotion, steady purpose to pleasure. Desire rules. The consequence, of course, is moral disintegration, licentiousness, cynicism, bitterness.

### APPEAL TO REASON.

We shall recover because moral decay to a virile people is intolerable. The great epochs of our past will remain our inspiration.

The present religious disquiet is not altogether a bad thing. It shows that people are for the most part determined to be honest in their religious beliefs. Many are willing to shut their minds and open their mouths to swallow what is offered as infallible truth; but the majority demand a reasonable faith. They will not pretend to accept what they surmise to be untrue. And they are slowly reconstructing faith for themselves.

Belief in the spiritual world is reviving. Materialism is dying. Clearly man is not the chance product of a whirl of electrons; and, if not, there is plan and purpose in the Universe. Behind matter, God exists. With God is the spiritual realm of goodness, beauty and truth. To this realm man belongs as much as to the realm of matter.

Belief in Christ is also regaining strength. The appeal of His spiritual authority and moral power is reasserting itself. Men are realizing that we cannot afford to disbelieve from our minds the picture of the Ideal Man. Religious perception is mutilated if He is banished from our spiritual scheme.

### WINTERTIME OF FAITH.

Thus the ground is being prepared for a new Evangelical Revival. Thoughtful men and women are feeling their way towards a right understanding of the relation of God to man.

They are troubled by all sorts of difficulties caused by the modern growth of knowledge. They find it hard to separate things essential from things non-essential to religion. They do not always know the difference between good science and bad. They follow false trails, which lead to the slough of absurd beliefs. But amid confusion there is true progress.

We are passing, in fact, through the early wintertime of faith. In winter all seems dead. There is obvious need of recuperation.

But below the soil there are already signs of new life. Rubbish lies heavy on the ground as if to mock the promise of last spring-time. Yet the end is the new beginning. Religion in man is as indestructible as the vegetation of nature.

### CHURCH IN DANGER.

I am always sorry for a church when its leaders proclaim its success. At such a time that church is in danger. Only too probably organization is quenching the spirit, the ideal is being lowered to the actual. Divine discontent, the most fertile source of moral earnestness, is almost certainly ebbing away. The hypocrites of comfortable respectability will survive.

But when religious people are troubled by the decay of faith and the growth of superstition, when they are appalled by the open licentiousness of their age, they are hearing a new summons to spiritual progress. Contentment and lethargy pass away. Like the Hebrew prophets, they feel the power of the Spirit of God within them. A new reformation begins.

Man was not made to gratify his animal passions or to bully and overreach his fellows, or to clothe his spiritual sense with morally empty fancies. But unless he holds with sincerity a reasonable faith he will be tempted to follow the example of those who indulge themselves in such ways.

The right sort of education is of great value, but such education as we now have is clearly not satisfactory. I do not believe that people will ever think rightly and feel rightly until they have a faith which is strong, simple, moral and free from superstition.

Happily a faith of this kind is being recreated. Happily also it is infectious, especially in an age which has learned that vice is nasty and credulity worthless.

Some will say: "We are spiritually tired. Let preachers soothe us to sleep for a generation. Then we shall wake refreshed." This is bad psychology. Moral and spiritual energy are created by inward conflict. Let a man be convinced that his conduct is unworthy of the purpose for which he was created, and in that man's soul discontent will lead to a struggle for a new kind of life.

That struggle will not exhaust him any more than it exhausted St. Paul or General Booth. The more strenuous it is, the more will the man's vitality be enriched.

## Ex-Kaiser, Dupe of Monarchist Plotters Who Play on His Fickle Mind

THIS intimate personal account of the Kaiser's activities at Doorn, Holland, continued from the Sunday Washington Times of last week, throws a flood of illumination on the imperial exile's counter-revolutionary schemings. The author for eighteen months was a member of the deposed Kaiser's domestic household and he has just left the service of his imperial master.

For obvious reasons and at the express wish of the author of these amazing revelations the name of the writer is suppressed. While The Washington Times cannot vouch for the authenticity of the details, it has investigated sufficiently to establish the reliability of this writer and to determine that the recital bears every evidence of the truth.

By a Member of the Kaiser's Household at Doorn.

DESPITE his affected freedom of movement at Doorn, the Kaiser is constantly watched and is carefully guarded against intrusions or a possible attempt on his life.

During the first five or six months of his sojourn at Amerongen there had been several serious attempts upon his life, but during my sojourn at Doorn there was never an occasion to suspect that any socialist or extremist had any design upon it.

Nevertheless, today he is being guarded more carefully than he was even on the battlefield.

The reason for this unfounded apprehension, I learned shortly after arriving at Doorn, was due to monarchist scares sent out from Berlin.

### Deceived by Monarchists.

Under the guise of taking extraordinary precautions against those who might harm the Kaiser, the monarchists have succeeded in working themselves to a position where they can dictate who may and who may not have interviews with the royal prisoner. The result is that the Kaiser's knowledge of German public opinion is wholly based upon what the monarchist conspirators wish him to know.

They have persuaded him to believe that the rank and file of Germany, especially the middle classes, are anxiously awaiting the day when their emperor will return to Berlin in all his past glory.

And thus while the Kaiser lies quietly in the background, he and his kin have at work, day and night, the most powerful military,

political and financial elements that exist in Germany.

Relies on Ludendorff.

One evening during the latter part of last March the Kaiser outlined to me in great detail the many aspects of the coming revolution.

He has implicit confidence in Ludendorff's hearty support of the monarchist cause.

The Kaiser believes that the general will throw himself into the conflict after the revolution has taken place.

He realizes that the overthrow of the republic can be easily accomplished, but that the difficult part is to maintain the coup d'etat.

It is then that he expects Ludendorff to take full command of the situation.

The now white-haired, highly nervous, at times credulous, but in his normal senses highly arrogant aspirant to his former unquestioned rule over millions can never be a menace to the fatherland if the reactionaries throughout Germany would leave him alone to live his life in his Doorn solitude.

Germany need not fear even the wild dreams of the secret societies made up of former officers.

But we who were monarchists and yet were patriotic enough to consider the welfare of the Fatherland above our own personal partisanship became alarmed when we began to realize that behind these secret organizations, made up of former soldiers, lurked nearly all the great land powers, industrial barons and the former retinue of the civil service.

The Kaiser expounded to me in that March talk that he especially

**Exile Believes That the German Masses Eagerly Await His Return to the Throne—Monarchists Have Mounted Guard Over the Hopelessly Insane Former Head of the Empire—He Thinks Ludendorff Will Throw Support to His Cause at the Proper Time—Quarrelled With the Kaiserin Only a Short Time Before Her Death.**

relied upon the present financial plight of the republic. The lower the exchange value of the mark the better the monarchists and the militarists liked it.

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by threatening to cut off their paper supply.

As Germany's paper, printing machinery and various other materials that go into the making of a newspaper are completely controlled by Stinnes, it can be easily seen how he can sway the German press at will.

This is one of the weapons, a mighty one, that is being wielded and relied upon by the Kaiser and his friends to overthrow the republic.

Besides the industrial phase, the Kaiser believes there are other powerful elements to assure the success of the next Monarchist venture.

one such a common expression that it has ceased to make an impression on his household personnel.

Early last April the Kaiser's hysterical spells became very frequent, so much so that we who were willing to serve him personally began to become irritated.

During one of these spells, which generally continued from eight to twenty-four hours, I was summoned to his library and subjected to a four-hour discourse, during which time the Kaiser continuously and fluently talked on nearly every subject under the sun, from early Egyptian history to the organization of the English guilds.

During the pre-war days I had believed there were some subjects the Kaiser could discuss authoritatively and at times I had admired his knowledge on various subjects that I believed he was not supposed to be conversant in, but after serving him for eighteen months at Doorn I learned that there was not a subject which he discussed that he thoroughly understood.

Mind Examined.

I was astounded when he stated that he had a bad inheritance. Then just as suddenly he began to attack his own private physician, who about thirty-five years ago notified the director of the Gotha Life Insurance Bank that the Kaiser himself had had was of a hereditary character; that the same was incurable and would finally end in mental malady.

I had absolutely no knowledge of such a thing. He further quoted other authorities, attacking them bitterly for having made these statements, and also for having reported to his own father that he was virtually insane.

The Kaiser told me that in 1877 his father had him examined by a board of mental scientists and their report was that he was capable of managing his own affairs. He criticized his father for having made this remark:

"How can you congratulate me, you psychiatrists!" adding "I am sad, for I believe he will never be really competent."

The Kaiser narrated all this to make a point.

His voluble discourses, without permitting any interruptions, have deceived many people into the belief that the man knew his subject. With the cunning especially peculiar to the madman he selects his subject of discourse according to the audience—to an ex-soldier he discusses diamond cutting and radium; whenever he encounters a scientist or a professor of physics he will recite the history of the Germanic races and the

evolution of the British constitution.

At times, without any reason, the Kaiser will launch a bitter attack on some former statesman, diplomat or soldier who has served the fatherland. Most of them are now dead.

One evening after a special summons to his room, without any introduction or preliminaries, he began to talk to me about William IV, his great-uncle, who died with a clouded mind.

"Well, the psychiatrists were right and my august father was wrong."

The Kaiser's abnormal interest in religion has worried his friends and attendants considerably during the last two years.

Before the war he was well known to worship ostentatiously, but since his exile this peculiarity has evolved itself into a malady.

At times he will stand up and read from the Bible for hours loud and gesticulating, occasionally stopping to interpret verses.

Takes Walks Alone.

I once timed him while praying. It took him exactly one hour and forty-five minutes.

He will frequently go into solitude. At one time during my sojourn at Doorn he prayed aloud and fasted forty-eight hours.

After these so-called "solitudes" he becomes so weak that for a few days he is not even able to take his daily exercises.

The Kaiser himself offers the prayers at meals, and to a stranger unfamiliar with his method of speech it would sound as though he was disputing some subject with the Deity.

Before breakfast the Kaiser usually takes a short walk, but he has a long walk after breakfast.

He very seldom asks any of his attendants to accompany him. He prefers to walk alone, but two, sometimes four, of his attendants or members of the household must follow him at a distance of ten or fifteen yards.

He walks as though he was inspecting his troops. Suddenly he stops at a shrub or a tree and delivers a discourse and then just as suddenly he resumes his walk.

Quarrel With Wife.

On two occasions during my stay at Doorn the Kaiser was absent from the house overnight. These childish escapades worried his attendants, but the affair was kept secret. Every effort was made not to have news of the Kaiser's absence from the house leak out.

One of the maids of honor who attended the Kaiserin at Amerongen told me that the Kaiser had been frequently absent from the palace during his stay at Amerongen. Finally the Dutch authorities learned of it and threatened to expel the Kaiser from Holland.

This maid of honor told me that only a few days after the Kaiserin joined the Kaiser at Amerongen the Kaiser was visited with one of his hysterical spasms, and his anger at her became so uncontrollable that he disappeared from the palace for four days, during which time Count Bentinck and his household were made to believe that the Kaiser was seriously ill and had to be confined to bed.

The Kaiserin knew the truth and through fear of having to tell a falsehood, like the Kaiser's physician and personal attendants, that he was critically ill she herself retired to her rooms and claimed indisposition.

Stayed at The Hague.

Perhaps there are only a few persons who know where the Kaiser stayed during those four days of his absence from Count Bentinck's palace, but the belief among the then members of his household is that he stayed at The Hague with one of his trusted Monarchist soldiers, who himself was then living at The Hague as a voluntary exile.

The cause of this serious dispute between the Kaiser and Kaiserin was, according to the maid of honor, over the Kaiserin's alleged extravagant contributions to several German charitable associations.

Neither I nor my informant will vouch for this being the true reason, but the Kaiser had always had so many disputes with the Kaiserin on financial matters that any misunderstanding arising between him and the Empress was naturally being attributed to the Kaiser's misdeeds.

Another highly interesting statement of the ex-Kaiser's doings at Doorn will be published in next Sunday's Washington Times.